What is claimed:

1	1. A system for withdrawing permeate from a substrate, said system comprising:
2	a vessel configured to contain substrate;

two or more compartments configured to receive substrate from said vessel and to return a portion of received substrate to said vessel;

a filter positioned at least partially within each of said compartments and configured to separate permeate from substrate during operation of said filter;

at least one of said compartments being configured to contain cleaning solution and substantially prevent cleaning solution from contacting substrate in said vessel during cleaning of said filter; and

said system being configured for cleaning said filter in situ in at least one of said compartments while operating said filter in at least one other of said compartments.

- 2. The system recited in claim 1, further comprising a source of cleaning solution configured to introduce cleaning solution into said compartments and into contact with said filter in said compartments.
- 3. The system recited in claim 1, each of said compartments having an opening for discharge of cleaning solution or substrate from said compartment.
- 4. The system recited in claim 1, at least one of said compartments being positioned at least partially within said vessel.
- 5. The system recited in claim 1, further comprising a diffuser positioned within at least one of said compartments for receiving substrate delivered from said vessel and for introducing received substrate into said compartment.
- 8. The system recited in claim 1, at least one of said compartments defining an opening through which received substrate returns to said vessel.
- 9. The system recited in claim 8, said opening being positioned at a top portion of said compartment.
- 10. The system recited in claim 1, said filter being configured to be submerged in substrate during operation.

- The system recited in claim 10, said filter being positioned completely 11. l within an interior of at least one of said compartments. 2 The system recited in claim 1, further comprising a tank connected to 1 receive permeate separated by said filter. 2 The system recited in claim 1, further comprising a permeate discharge 1 positioned at an elevation below said filter such that atmospheric pressure causes 2 permeate to flow from said filter toward said permeate discharge. 3 The system recited in claim 1, wherein at least two of said compartments 14. 1 are positioned adjacent one another. 2 The system recited in claim 14, said compartments being defined by a 1 compartment divided into two or more sub-compartments configured to receive 2 substrate from said vessel and to return a portion of received substrate to said vessel. 3 The system recited in claim 15, wherein a filter is positioned at least 16. 1 partially within each of said sub-compartments. 2 A system for withdrawing permeate from a substrate, said system 17. 1 comprising: 2 a vessel configured to contain substrate; 3 two or more compartments positioned at least partially within said vessel, said 4 compartments being configured to receive substrate from said vessel and to return a 5 portion of received substrate to said vessel; 6 a filter positioned at least partially within each of said compartments and 7 configured to separate permeate from substrate during operation of said filter; 8 at least one of said compartments being configured to contain cleaning solution 9 and substantially prevent cleaning solution from contacting substrate in said vessel 10 during cleaning of said filter; and 11
 - 18. A method for withdrawing permeate from a substrate using a filtration system, said method comprising the steps of:

compartments while operating said filter in at least one other of said compartments.

12

13

1

2

said system being configured for cleaning said filter in situ in at least one of said

3	(a) introducing substrate from a vessel into two or more compartments for contact with a filter positioned at least partially within each of the compartments;
4	
5	(b) returning a portion of received substrate from the compartments to the
6	vessel;
7	(c) cleaning a filter associated with at least one of the compartments in situ;
8	and
9	(d) operating a filter associated with at least one other of the compartments,
10	thereby withdrawing permeate from substrate received in the compartment through the
11	operating filter.
11	the standard comprises the
i	
2	steps of:
3	(a) introducing a cleaner into the compartment or filter;
4	(b) preventing cleaner from contacting substrate in the vessel;
5	(c) cleaning a filter associated with at least one of the compartments; and
6	(d) at least partially submerging the filter to at least partially clean the filter,
7	all while maintaining the filter in situ.
,	20. The method recited in claim 19, said submerging step comprising
1	positioning the filter completely within the interior of the compartment.
2	
1	21. The method recited in claim 19, said cleaning step further comprising the
2	step of draining cleaner from the compartment.
1	22. The method recited in claim 18, said cleaning step and said operating step
2	being conducted substantially concurrently to facilitate continuous operation of the
3	filtration system while at least one of the filters is being cleaned.
1	23. The method recited in claim 18, said cleaning step further comprises the
2	step of preventing flow of substrate into the compartment from the vessel.
	24. The method recited in claim 18, said cleaning step further comprising the
1	step of introducing permeate, a chemical solution, or a combination of permeate and a
2	chemical solution into the compartment or filter.
3	chemical solution into the compartment of more

The method recited in claim 18, said returning step comprising returning a 25. ı majority of received substrate from the compartment to the vessel. 2 26. The method recited in claim 18, further comprising the step of maintaining 1 the ratio of returned substrate to permeate at about 5:1. 2 The method recited in claim 18, further comprising the step of mixing 1 substrate in the vessel. 2 The method recited in claim 18, said returning step comprising circulating 28. 1 received substrate adjacent to the filter to reduce the formation of a film on the filter. 2 The method recited in claim 18, further comprising the step of returning to 1 the filter a portion of permeate for reverse flow through the filter. 2 The method recited in claim 29, said step of returning permeate to the 31. 1 filter being performed periodically. 2 The method recited in claim 18, said cleaning step comprising introducing 32. 1 cleaner into the compartment through the filter. 2 A method for adapting a filtration system for cleaning thereof, said 33. l filtration system being configured to remove permeate from substrate contained in a 2 vessel, said method comprising the steps of: 3 positioning at least one compartment to receive substrate from the vessel (a) 4 and to return a portion of received substrate to the vessel; 5 positioning a filter at least partially within the compartment for separating (b) 6 permeate from substrate during operation of the filter; and 7 configuring the compartment to contain cleaning solution and (c) 8 substantially prevent cleaning solution from contacting substrate in the vessel during 9 cleaning of the filter. 10

34.

l

2

3

vessel.

The method recited in claim 33, said compartment positioning step

further comprising the step of positioning the compartment at least partially within the